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FILED

August27,2003

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: Hakima Bey-Lawson

Deputy Attorney General

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

Administrative Action

JONATHON FOX, M.D. License No. MA

CONSENT ORDER

TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND SURGERY IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners (hereinafter the "Board") upon receipt of information that Jonathon Fox, M.D. (hereinafter the "'respondent") left blank pre-signed prescriptions in an unlocked drawer in his medical office and that the respondent also left pre-signed prescriptions with X-ray technicians and medical assistants.

The respondent, represented by Robert J. Conroy, Esq., appeared and testified before a Preliminary Evaluation Committee of the Board on December 1, 1999. According to the respondent's testimony and representations made through respondent's counsel following his appearance, after he examines a patient it is his standard practice tu write orders in triplicate in the medical



record. The respondent then gives the patient chart, along with a pre-signed prescription blank, to a medical assistant, who has been bonded and trained. The medical assistant then writes out the particular medication and dosage on the prescription according to a printed instruction sheet.

The Board finds that the respondent's conduct of pre-signing prescription blanks was not in conformance to the requirements of its prior regulation, N.J.A.C. 13:35-6.6 and further finds that respondent failed to conform his patient: records to the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:35-6.5, thus demonstrating a failure to comply with the provisions of regulations administered by the Board in violation of N.J.A.C. 45:1-21 (h).

While the respondent disputes the alleged violations, the respondent is desirous of resolving this matter without further formal proceedings and the Board finding the within disposition adequately protective of the public health, safety and welfare, for the reasons expressed herein and other good cause having been shown.

ORDERED AND AGREED, that:

- 1. Respondent shall conform his prescriptions to the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:35-7.2 and shall conform his patient records to N.J.A.C. 13:35-6.5.
- 2. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$5,000.00.

- 3. Respondent shall pay costs in the amount of \$1,575.42.
- 4. Said payments for civil penalties and costs shall be made by certified check or money order and made payable to the Board of Medical Examiners and shall be submitted to William Roeder, Executive Director of the Board of Medical Examiners, P.O. Box 283, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0183, within 120 days from entry of this Order.
- 5. Respondent shall, within the twelve months following entry of this Order, take and successfully complete a record keeping course and a Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) course approved in advance by the Board, such as but not limited to the mini-residency in the Proper Prescribing of Controlled Substances. Successful completion means that all sessions were attended, all assignments were properly and appropriately completed, and a passing grade was achieved which was unconditional and without reservations.
- 6. Respondent shall continue to exercise his sound professional judgment in determining whether a prescription refill for his patients can await the weekday when he is contacted on a weekend.

7. Respondent shall, within the thirty (30) days following by of this Order, submit to the Board his revised procedures justiating the protocols in his office with regard to the suance of prescriptions to patients.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF

MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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William Horas ME BLD

Dr. William V. Harrer, M.D., B.L.D.

President

I have reed and understood the within or er and agree to be not by its contents. Consented as to and entry.

Jenathon Fox, M.D. Bespondent

Consented to as to form and entry

Robert J. Conroy, Esq